



# Memorandum

**TO:** Historic Landmarks Commission **FROM:** Courtney Damkroger

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** April 27, 2005

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## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF 99 NOTRE DAME AVENUE, CITY LANDMARK NO. HL01-143**

### **BACKGROUND**

The City Council designated the IBM Building, located at 99 Notre Dame Avenue as a City Landmark (No. HL01-143) of special historical, architectural, cultural, aesthetic, or engineering interest or value of a historical based on the following findings:

- Its location as a site of a significant historic event because RAMAC (Random Access Method of Accounting and Control), a new storage technology for computers, was developed within this structure.
- Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the local, regional, state or national culture and history due to its association with Reynold Johnson, who led the Advanced Systems Development Division that later developed the RAMAC technology.
- Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social or historic heritage of the City of San Jose in that the technology founded at this site is symbolic of the emerging development of Silicon Valley in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

### **ANALYSIS**

Council members Williams and Chavez have proposed a resolution recognizing the technical contributions and economic impact of the RAMAC, developed at the City Landmark site, to the City of San Jose, and indicating support of a museum featuring this history at the site. The resolution will be handed to an IMB representative at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' convention later in May.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Historic Landmarks Commission endorse the proposed City Council resolution.

Courtney Damkroger  
Historic Preservation Officer